



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2633 \$
✓ #18
S.I.
02-25-04

In re application of:

Koichi TAKIGUCHI et al.

Appl. No.: 09/688,933

Confirmation No.: 2516

Filed: October 17, 2000

For: DISPERSION SLOPE EQUALIZER

02/20/2004 BSAYAS11 00000085 09688933

01 FC:1806

180.00 OP

Third Information Disclosure Statement

Art Unit: 2633

Examiner: Phan Hahn

Atty. Docket No.: 32307-167197

Customer No:

26694

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

FEB 23 2004

Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

Sir:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 within the time specified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2).

In order to comply the duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, submitted herewith is the PTO/SB/08A listing the documents A1 through A7 cited in an Office Action of the counterpart Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-315638. The relevance of documents A1 through A7 are indicated in the Japanese Office Action. A translation of the Japanese Office Action is also enclosed. Documents A1 through A7 each have abstracts attached, respectively, and are further enclosed. Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. Hei 10-276172 is not enclosed because it corresponds to U.S. patent No. 6,181,449, which was cited on the Form PTO-892 in the Office Action mailed on December 5, 2003.

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, but before receipt of an action that closes prosecution in the application. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2), a fee of \$180.00 is attached.

In view of the above, no further translation or statement of relevance is required, and as all requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and all official guidelines pertaining to Information

Disclosure Statements have been complied with, and it is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the documents and make them of record.

If no check is attached, please charge any necessary fee or credit any overpayment in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 17, 2004



Michael A. Sartori, Ph.D.
Registration No. 41,289
VENABLE LLP
P.O. Box 34385
Washington, D.C. 20043-9998

Telephone: (202) 344-4000
Telefax: (202) 344-8300